*Washington, D.C.* - Congressman John Hall (NY-19) issued the following statement after the House passed H.Res. 1359, a resolution that calls for the immediate and unconditional release of Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit held captive by Hamas.

"I was proud to support a Congressional resolution (H.Res. 1359) demanding the immediate, unconditional release of Gilad Shalit, a sergeant in the Israeli Defense Forces who has been held captive by the terrorist organization Hamas for nearly four years. Since his capture in June 2006, Hamas has denied the Red Cross access to Gilad, and he has been denied basic humane treatment. The brutality of his captivity serves to highlight the great threats facing Israel and the need for the United States to stand beside its friend and ally in the fight against international terrorist organizations."